

**Postal Regulatory Commission
Office of the Chief Admin. Officer**

NOV 21 2011

BEFORE THE
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268

RECEIVED

2011 NOV 21 P 12: 01

In the Matter of:

CANEHILL AR 72717
Post Office State ZIP Code

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Docket No: 1356857-72717
A 2012-20

see attached list, Petitioner(s)

PARTICIPANT STATEMENT

1. Petitioner(s) are appealing the Postal Service's Final Determination concerning the Canehill post office. The Final Determination was posted 9-29-2011 (date)

2. In accordance with applicable law, 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)(5), the Petitioner(s) request the Postal Regulatory Commission to review the Postal Service's determination on the basis of the record before the Postal Service in the making of the determination.

3. Petitioners: Please set out below the reasons why you believe the Postal Service's Final Determination should be reversed and returned to the Postal Service for further consideration. (See pages of the Instructions for an outline of the kinds of reasons the law requires us to consider.) Please be as specific as possible. Please continue on additional paper if you need more space and attach the additional page(s) to this form.

see attached

This Participant Statement is presented on behalf of the following who believe the USPS did not present true and credible evidence to support the closing of the Canehill Post Office.

Docket # 1356857-72717

Respectfully submitted by

T.A. Sampson

PO Box 169 Canehill, AR 72717

The following friends, neighbors and postal patrons agree with the points presented herein.

Audrey & Steve Hacker	Roy Gene Rinehart	Julie Baughman
Juanita McClellan	Jeannie Sue Kisner	Tom Albanese
Mr & Mrs Robert Campbell	Mr&Mrs Raymond Vestal	Betty& Howard Colburn
Taryn & Jimmy Waddell	Mike Waring	Liz & Don Hamblet
Robin Beaumont	Dwayne Newberry	William Corder
Bobby Baxter	Marie Jenkins	Nancy & Don LaVoie
Tate Mitchell	John Mitchell	Homer & Barbara Hodson
Robert Schube	Gwen Harding	Canehill Kite Festival
Cane Hill Presbyterian Church	Marie Evans	AEMTA Vendors
Francis Smith	Meagan Newberry	Jimmy Welch
Jerritt Newberry	Angela James	Mr& Mrs Connie DeLap
C.I. Taylor	Steve & Marnie Long	Marcy Kaiser
Billie Havens Family	Traci & Joe Gardenshire	David & Lynette Ellis

Springfield Ranch Hunt Club: Tim Self, Mike Self, Codey Self, Chris Self, Dave Sellek, T.J. Johnson, Jim Johnson, Todd Johnson, Paul Kauffman, and Jerry Self.

1. The retail business has declined at the Canehill Post Office due to a systematic plan by the Lincoln Post Office to take business from the location. They have diverted business and revenue to the Lincoln location which should have been credited to Canehill. For example: customers on the Canehill route must go to Lincoln to retrieve packages instead of Canehill which is closer. Stamps sold on the Canehill route are purchased at Lincoln instead of Canehill by the carrier.
2. There is no other business in Canehill and the location serves as a community information center as well as a needed postal locale.
3. Eliminating the Canehill Station is not in keeping with the objective of the USPS to provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal services to rural areas.
4. Rural areas present an entirely different dynamic from urban areas. We have had numerous cases of mail theft and box vandalism in the area. To force customers into a route service is to put them at a security risk. Not everyone in our area has or wants Internet service. They rely on the Post Office to pay bills.
5. To suggest patrons may leave money for stamps in a roadside box is more than ludicrous. It was suggested we could place a lock on our boxes, BUT the carrier would not accept keys or lock any boxes after delivering mail. The placement of cluster boxes or parcel lockers would only make it easier for the thieves.
6. The dynamic of Canehill is a largely senior population, many of whom probably should not be driving at all, but do drive to the Cane Hill Post Office because they feel safe doing so and it is close. I seriously doubt the Post Office will provide door service for all who request hardship.
7. The figures presented at the community meeting are not accurate in that the Canehill Post Office is run by an IOC so there are no fringe benefits. They quoted operating costs at \$50,000 and then changed it to \$36,500. Do they really know how much it costs?
8. The lease still has 3 years on the contract and there is no buyout clause, so rent would still have to be paid on an empty building should the Post Office be closed.
9. Due to community concern there has been a dramatic increase in Canehill revenue which should be taken into consideration.
10. The Canehill community cares and supports their Post Office as is evidenced by the large turnout at the community meeting in spite of it being scheduled on a church night and too early for working folk to attend. The Morrow community does not seem to share this concern for their location.
11. At the community meeting representatives from the Lincoln Post Office assured everyone the problem with Canehill box customers' mail being returned had been resolved. We have complained about this for years and looked upon the problem more as harassment than anything else. Recently the problem seems to have risen again as I recently had a bill returned.
12. The USPS seems to have turned a blind eye to any other solutions and from figures I've read, closing all the rural offices will save them a miniscule amount of money. Decisions made in the panic mode rarely solve any problems and usually result in more.
13. The Canehill community would rather see elimination of Saturday delivery or shorter window hours if it meant we could save our Post Office.